

Parapsychology Abstracts International

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that the strict application of the double-blind method offers the researcher the guarantee of absolute objectivity in estimating results. - DA/R.A.W.

03616. Rigato, Mario. The possibility of suggestive influences in certain analgesic effects of magnetotherapy: A boundary problem between parapsychology and unquestioned sciences. *Quaderni di Parapsicologia*, 1986, 17(1), 46-48.

The clinical effects of pulsed magnetic fields are easily controllable by means of radiography and other objective data. On the other hand, the purely analgesic effects declared by the patient are not controllable. Some authors suggest that a placebo effect is present. On this problem an experimental research program is presented to be carried out in collaboration with the Parapsychology Laboratory of The University of Utrecht. The aim is to point out some aspects which could involve academic orthodoxy as well as parapsychology. - DA/R.A.W.

03617. Bersani, Ferdinando, and Travisan, Bruno. Experiences with psycholinguistic PK. *Quaderni di Parapsicologia*, 1986, 17(1), 49-53. 1 ref

Last year we presented a new method that could detect some possible PK effects catalyzed by the interpretation of semirandom acoustic signals recorded on a tape recorder. In a previous study we investigated the possibility of perceiving linguistic patterns in suitable nonlinguistic acoustic events. The two essential conditions in order to obtain such effects were: (a) the availability of sounds that could be listened to over and over again on a tape recorder, and (b) the propensity of the subject to understand that what they are listening to is a linguistic message.

As we showed last year, the hypothesis can be formulated which says that a condition can be produced during the linguistic interpretation that is particularly conducive in order to produce some PK effects by which a "nonintentional" modification of acoustic patterns could result in better equating the acoustic event to a linguistic model produced by the subject's mind. This hypothesis also fits with Stanford's "conformance behavior" model. In our set-up, the physical target of the PK is the electronic device by which the acoustic events are processed.

In other words, our present investigation involves the possibility of detecting some modifications in the electronic "processing" of the acoustic signals previously recorded. In our pilot attempts the subject was requested to listen (using headphones) to suitable signals, and his emotional involvement was monitored via an electronic device called the "oracle," wherein the subject asks the "oracle" to speak about some personal questions. In other words, the acoustic signals can be used as targets for a short projective test in which the subject is particularly involved. In order to improve the psychological connection between the electronic device and the subjects, we introduced some modifications into the circuits with respect to the previous instrumentation, and we also introduced feedback by means of a small light that flashes when the "oracle" speaks. With these modifications we have conducted an extensive investigation with quite a large number of subjects. No PK effect was detected. Nevertheless, experimentation is still going on in order to obtain a very large amount of data. - DA/R.A.W.

03618. Dettore, Ugo. A hypothesis of clairvoyance. *Quaderni di Parapsicologia*, 1986, 17(1), 54-60.

We hypothesize a sensoriality in time (past and future) on the pattern of which the sensoriality in space (present), peculiar to the five known senses, would have

formed. The sensoriality in time would be peculiar to all, living and nonliving beings; the one in space would belong only to living beings, even if potentially present in the nonliving ones. Clairvoyance would consist in the sensoriality in time (retro-cognition and pre-cognition); clairvoyance in the present, or cryptesthesia, would in reality be a perception of the immediate past, displaced only by a few moments as to the present. On the basis of time sensoriality, it would have formed intuitive thought which is always creative and leads to the evolution of all beings; on the basis of space sensoriality, it would have developed rational thought, which in itself isn't creative but only aims at settling fixed relations, or laws, among beings. The interaction between the two sensorialities and the two forms of thought offers us the whole of reality. - DA/R.A.W.

03619. Martelli, Aldo. Experiences of collaboration with certain prestidigitators in the investigation of some presumably paranormal cases. *Quaderni di Parapsicologia*, 1986, 17(1), 61-68.

On several occasions, during our investigations and experimental researches on some supposed paranormal phenomena, we availed ourselves of the collaboration of two conjurors: Vanni Bossi and Alexander. In our opinion, such collaboration is useful and advisable. Obviously, one should consider certain difficulties, deriving, for instance, from the conjurors' engagements.

We agree with Vanni Bossi that it is not enough to have at our disposal a "tout-court" good conjuror. It is also necessary that the conjuror is practiced, not only in conjuring tricks in general, but also with those tricks that "paranormal" subjects could perform.

Thanks to Alexander's collaboration, we investigated a supposed phenomenon of water creation. The subject was a 15-year-old girl. This case proved to be a trick as the girl, thanks to her extraordinary skill, was able to put out the salivary secretion through her imperceptibly half-open lips. We also investigated a case of an 11-year-old boy who had been described as the protagonist of many extraordinary ESP and PK phenomena. In our presence, the boy was able only to make a thermometer mercury rise, by means of a "trick," unconscious perhaps, but soon revealed. Moreover, in 1978, in Milan, Alexander caught Geller bending a key by hand, simulating PK. He was able to reproduce the success in the same way.

We made use of the two conjurors' opinions also in order to examine (as deeply as possible) about 30 experiments. They involved metal bending and of other kinds, selected among over 200 experiments performed during some years with half a dozen "mini-gellers," and with Professor Bersani's collaboration. We chose that experiments because we considered them valid as far as their paranormal "genuineness" was concerned.

In this case, we should be satisfied with the conjurors' posterior judgment that is given on the basis of our account. In fact, we cannot have them at our disposal all throughout the experiment. The explanations for the phenomena, that the conjurors gave separately, partly coincided, partly contrasted, and only two were judged tenable, on the basis of our experimental experience. In some cases, then, the conjurors admitted that, if things had actually gone as we had described, the only explanation they could give was the operator's inattention. - DA/R.A.W.

03620. Cassoli, Piero. A contribution to the study of pranotherapy. *Quaderni di Parapsicologia*, 1986, 17(1), 69-89. 43 refs; 1 table

The author, a physician, discusses problems concerning "healers." For many years he has been investigating only

those healers who act by "laying of hands." He wrote two books, one in cooperation with the parapsychologist G. Iannuzzo, and numerous papers on the same subject, gathering an extensive collection of historical cases. After having dealt with some problems connected with the peculiar situation of Italian healers (who maintain their position in spite of important medical and surgical progress and their illegal situation), the author discusses three topics: new historical cases, laboratory results, and the placebo effect.

Regarding the first he refers to the results of some cases of Muscular Progressive Dystrophy. Some young patients have improved both during and after pranotherapy. After (from two to six months) patients got worse again; they then repeated the treatment and got better. They are like a battery that charges and discharges. If we are able to get confirmation about such a phenomenon, how can it be explained by the placebo effect?

The second subject dealt with is Kirlian photography. In Italy a well organized and diffused Center issues a diploma to healers (or presumed healers) certifying that a fluid (bioplasma) emanates from their hands as attested by Kirlian photography. It is certainly proved that Kirlian photography depends on a well-known physical phenomenon, but in Italy four Lower Court judges have acquitted four healers from the indictment of the illegal practice of medicine. Their sentence was founded on the results of Kirlian photography. It is advisable that major parapsychological organizations (like the P.A.) suggest that their members do not participate in any meeting, or anything else that this Center might promote.

The third subject concerns the placebo effect (P.E.), perhaps the most disturbing and puzzling problem for the scientifically oriented mind of a physician when he is facing the interpretation of pranotherapy results. Papers on this subject agree that 35% of the benefits of all medical treatments (chemical, physical, or surgical) may be referred to P.E. P.E. apparently is not a mere suggestion effect, unless we acknowledge that suggestion can give rise to extraordinary biological reactions (on enzymes, on chemical blood components, on hormones, and so on). Furthermore, well mastered researches in this field (P.E.) are necessary. After 35 years of clinical observation and controls of a good number of healers' results, the author is at present very cautious on the possibility of the presence of PK in this matter. The same position is maintained on the possibility that something "flows" or emanates from the healer's body. He is waiting for clinically controlled experiments (by blind and double-blind methods) to be carried out only in Clinical University Institutes. - DA/R.A.W.

03621. Rosa, Rodolfo. Reflections on the time-bound universe. *Quaderni di Parapsicologia*, 1986, 17(1), 90-100. 3 graphs; 1 illus; 8 refs

The aim of this lecture is to introduce to the non-specialist the Erhenfest urn model exploited by Cocke to illustrate an oscillating universe model in which there are two boundary conditions: one in the past (big-bang) and one in the future (big-crunch). A simple Monte Carlo computer code has been set up in order to simulate the statistical behavior of the system consisting of two urns and 36 balls, numbered from 1 to 36. One starts with 27 balls in the left-hand urn and 9 in the right-hand one. A random number selects a ball which is moved from the system and is defined as $\delta n = n_{\text{sub } s}$ (number of balls in the left-hand urn) - $n_{\text{sub } e}$ (equilibrium value). Two typical histories and the average of over hundreds of runs is reported. The code saves only those histories which satisfy the final boundary condition. Two such allowed histories

and the average of 14 of them are reported. It must be emphasized that in double-ended statistics, even in the expanding phase of the universe, the course of events can be conditioned by the future boundary conditions. In this sense we speak of causality violation or "pre-effect": the future can influence the past. In such a context, time-symmetric thermodynamics (i.e., a thermodynamics with boundary conditions on both the past and the future) put forward by J.A. Donald and B. Martin some years ago is referred to. According to these authors, a past directed neg-entropy associated with boundary conditions in the future is the means through which living organisms can influence the past. In an analogous way they utilize the usual neg-entropy to change the future states of the universe. - DA/R.A.W.

03622. Bernardi, Sergio. The cradle of the paranormal. *Quaderni di Parapsicologia*, 1986, 17(1), 101-110. 23 refs

People have wondered about the psychological origins of paranormal phenomena. There has been some research in what has been defined by Jan Ehrenwald, a famous researcher now in New York, as the cradle of the paranormal. More in-depth study has been made in this field. Attention was at first given to the mother/suckling relationship and to its paranormal components. This led to the intrauterine mother/fetus relationship and research was conducted at this level. This problem was brought up in the 1930's by the famous psychoanalyst Sadger, who said: "The child knows from the uterine stage whether the mother loves him or hates him." The Argentinian psychoanalyst Arnaldo Raskovski discussed many aspects of this topic. Recently, Mauro Mancía, a neuropsychologist and psychoanalyst, shed more light on the subject. A book by Otto Rank, *The Trauma of Birth*, is an in-depth study of the psychic life of the unborn child. This topic has also been researched by others such as Sandor Ferenczi, Georg Groddek, and Wilhelm Stekel. The existence of an oneiric life and therefore psychic life in the fetal stage during the last months of pregnancy and after the first months of birth has been demonstrated by experiments using REM and EEG. Undoubtedly, these remarks are of great importance in the evolution of research in this area, which is so significant for a better knowledge of the modalities and structures of the deep levels of human personalities. A distinguishing criterion is suggested about the interpretations that various scholars have given to the concept of "psychic regression" to primary stages in connection with emerging paranormal phenomena. - DA/R.A.W.

03623. Iannuzzo, Giovanni. Psychiatry and spiritism: Italian psychiatry of the early 20th century and psychic research. *Quaderni di Parapsicologia*, 1986, 17(1), 111-125. 32 refs

The author discusses the relationship between psychiatry and psychical research at the beginning of the 20th century. He deals mainly with two personages: Cesare Lombroso and Enrico Morselli, leaders of Italian psychiatry, both with a great interest in psychical research, but along different lines. In fact, Lombroso became a follower of spiritistic doctrine after some mediumistic experiences; Morselli retained a sufficiently severe and anti-spiritistic scientific behavior. They were not the only physicians approaching spiritism: other lesser known scientists (Samona, Luciani, Bianchi) attended to this subject, demonstrating that the interest in these phenomena was very deep. The most important scientific journals of that period dealt with this argument. This was the golden age of psychical research in Italy, but it lasted only a few years and soon our country lost its supremacy. The author

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analysis revealed no significant sun sign effects on political conservatism. - DA

03587. Müller, Arno. Accident-prone persons in the horoscope: Report on Part II of an astrological matching test (Vernon Clerk Test) and discussion of the total study. *Zeitschrift für Parapsychologie und Grenzgebiete der Psychologie*, 1988, 30(1-4), 230-235. 6 refs

After critical comments on a publication of Part I presented by others, the results of Part II are reported. In seven independent tests the astrologers had to select out of three persons (one accident prone, two for control) the accident-prone one on the basis of official time records on the charts. The person was described, including his most serious accidents with date of occurrence. Whereas Part I yielded a slight positive result, Part II was distinctly negative. The total result vindicates the conclusion that the astrologers were not able to identify persons with serious accidents with statistical significance on the basis of the chart. - DA

03588. Wälti, Bernhard. Preliminary report on an unusual experiment with Silvio. *Zeitschrift für Parapsychologie und Grenzgebiete der Psychologie*, 1988, 30(1-4), 236-242. 1 illus; 5 refs

We report an experiment in which a well-known alleged paranormally talented person intertwined two frames made out of different materials (paper and aluminum) in an as yet unexplained manner. Although the mere existence of the object cannot be regarded as ultimate proof of a paranormal action, the threshold for a conventional explanation is set high. Careful examinations of the object have not revealed any trace of technical manipulation. - DA

ITALIAN LANGUAGE

(Editors: Paola Giovetti; William Giroladini)

LUCE E OMBRA

Published quarterly in Italian by dell'Associazione Archivio di Documentazione Storica della Ricerca Psichica (Silvio Ravaldini, director). Founded in 1900, it is edited by Riccardo Cesanelli, Lina de Boni, Giorgio di Simone, Pierangelo Garzia, and Paola Giovetti. The address is Bozzano-De Boni, Via Orfeo, 15; 40124 Bologna, Italia. Telephone (051) 33 27 05.

03589. Ravaldini, Silvio. From D.D. Home to "A" Entity: Is mediumistic phenomenology adapting to the times and historical contexts to be better understood? *Luce e Ombra*, 1988 (Jan/Mar), 88(1), 1-9. 8 refs

In the above article, the author makes an excursus in paranormal phenomenology, going from the English medium D.D. Home to the high level messages ("A" Entity) still being received through the excellent medium at the Parapsychological Study Center in Naples. Therefore, the certainty of the existence of an "interiority" in humans is confirmed by the various intelligent messages received during this span of time. At the same time, this "interiority" is also underlined by our modern philosophers (Assagioli, Tagore, Fromm) who cannot accept in humans an intelligence of a solely mechanic type. Life meaning will be found through the discovery and the acceptance of our own "interiority." Being able to read all the mediumistic messages—even the simplest ones, such as those that will be due to telepathy—with the detachment of a

research focus will make it possible to understand better the intelligent pattern of the spiritual universe. - DT/R.A.W.

03590. Piancastelli, Corrado. The interior in psychotherapy: Introductory statement of a research. *Luce e Ombra*, 1988 (Jan/Mar), 88(1), 10-18.

The author belongs to the new wave of parapsychology which, in Italy, is centering its research aims inside "the man," where respect for the traditional and phenomenological extra-sensoriality are recognized as very important paranormal aspects. In support of what was said above mystical experiences are valued and, above all, those obtainable by the superior method of autogenic training developed by Schultz. The author talks about the subjective evidence in which a verified clinical death is followed by a return to life. These facts, verified even in hospital, show a fantastic consistency and provide an important analogy with mystic raptures, drug hallucinations, and the perceptions obtainable by autogenic training. The author attempts to identify an eventual structure independent of the psychic one, as we know it, and he does not hesitate to call this possible structure the "soul." From within the general theory of personality, it will be possible to obtain the desired identification. - DT/R.A.W.

03591. Biondi, Massimo. Tables and mediums: History of spiritism in Italy. *Luce e Ombra*, 1988 (Jan/Mar), 88(1), 20-30.

In the 1900s, in a wine shop in Turin there occurred a typical poltergeist case. Attracted by the news that started to spread about the case, many scholars carried out some investigations (Prof. Lombroso among them). Within a few days, the phenomena stopped after a boy who was working inside the shop departed. Besides this one, many other poltergeist events have occurred in Italy in all periods. But scholars did not take a big interest in them, even if some of these researchers proposed very interesting theses and considerations.

This article is taken from the book *Tables and Mediums: History of Spiritism in Italy*. It will be the first history of Italian spiritism from the last half of the last century to the First World War. - DA/R.A.W.

03592. Giovetti, Paola. Findhorn community in Scotland: Conscience in the Aquarian Age. *Luce e Ombra*, 1988 (Jan/Mar), 88(1), 31-41.

This article describes the community of Findhorn in Scotland, where the author spent a period of time last year. She lived with the members of the community and spoke with the most representative ones. Findhorn is well known for its exceptional garden, which grows in a cold, windy and sandy place: The wonderful and extraordinary big flowers and vegetables that are obtained in Findhorn are the result of a new, respectful, and warm approach to nature and to the "spirits of nature," who are willing to cooperate with men if they change their minds. Today Findhorn is a place where people try to develop a new consciousness and a new way to relate to God, man, and nature: a consciousness for the coming centuries! - DA/R.A.W.

03593. Simone, Giorgio di. The interior area: From subjectivity to metaphysical objectivity. *Luce e Ombra*, 1988 (Jan/Mar), 88(1), 42-49. 6 refs

After a sequence of quotations (*Bhagavad-Gita*, A. Munthe, C.G. Jung, R. Laing, A. Maslow), the author reaffirms the importance of analyzing human interior space compared to the current culture that tries to repress its

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tical activity is diminished, and points out that several observations of what occurs during Rol's demonstrations indicate cortical inhibition derived from hypnosis. She notes that one can be in an altered state without being consciously aware that one is in it.

Riccardi called for a vote on whether the audience considered that all Rol's phenomena are faked. All votes were negative.

There follows a general discussion among Gabricci, Valerio, and Galateri, of mediumship, hypnosis, and mediumistic trance. Alberti and Mengoli urges that filming the proceedings of seances is highly desirable, and Mengoli cites Schiebeler's laboratory at Ravensburg that is equipped to study physical phenomena.

Occhipinti describes parallels between Rol's demonstrations and what he observed at seances with the medium, Anibale Gnocchi.

Riccardi describes personality changes in Rol as his demonstrations develop. At such times, he describes

does not take over a situation, even though he may be the center of it. Riccardi thinks it is of great importance that Rol seems to address remarks to someone, he knows not who, during his demonstrations. He says the process of each sitting develops "as if there were band of hobgoblins in the room" who receive orders and rush into the operations needed for reaching the final end desired. He says he is convinced that Rol is served with continuity and precision by those entities, as was Aladdin, who also was ignorant of the identities of his invisible helpers.

Occhipinti says Gnocchi was able to transfer his powers to someone else. Riccardi adds that the same is true of Rol, and cites an example.

The editor, Ettore Mengoli, concludes the debate with this note: "From the preceding pages one can see that Dr. Rol has been approached cordially and praised, but in no way thoroughly examined. In Italy and abroad all statements about this case are to be considered "informative" but not "scientific." - DA/R.A.W.

01683. Racanelli, Francesco. I and parapsychology. Metapsichica Rivista Italiana di Parapsicologia 1970 (Jan-Jun), 25(1-2), 56-62.

At the request of the editor, Racanelli describes his work as as a medical doctor and as a healer. Initially he was a convinced healer only, but this displeased the Italian police, so he decided to obtain a medical degree

and practice healing lawfully. With him the two professions are complementary. - DA

JAPANESE LANGUAGE

(Editor: Toshio Kasahara)

RESEARCHES OF JAPAN PSYCHIC SCIENCE ASSOCIATION

01684. Tanaka, Chiyomatsu. Annals of new spiritualism, psychical research, and parapsychology. Researches of Japan Psychic Science Association, 1974 (Oct), 1-69.

This is a chronological record of 100 important events in the history of spiritualism, psychical research, and parapsychology beginning with the Hydesville rappings in 1848 through 1974. The text is in both Japanese and English. The sources of the information in the chronology is provided in the form of bibliographic notes. A letter code precedes each event.

nited States; B for Britain; C for Continental Europe; J for Japan, and G for General history. The sources footnotes are N. Fodor's Encyclopedia of Psychic Science (1934), E. Thompson's History & Science of Spiritualism (1948), Rhine and Pratt's Parapsychology (1957), Doyle's History of Spiritualism (1926), and Nelson's Spiritualism and Society (1969). - R.A.W.

III. ARTICLES IN NONPARAPSYCHOLOGICAL JOURNALS

This section will henceforth be presented in two parts: Part 1 will consist of articles on parapsychological topics published in nonparapsychological journals. Part 2 will consist of articles in nonparapsychological journals on topics dealing with other disciplines but that also may be applicable or relevant to parapsychological concerns.

PART 1. ARTICLES ON PARAPSYCHOLOGY IN NONPARAPSYCHOLOGICAL JOURNALS

01685. Abbott, David P. Mediumistic readings of sealed writings. Open Court, 1906 (Apr), 20(4), 194-211.

Several methods are outlined for reading writing secured in sealed envelopes. The techniques are basically those used by stage clairvoyants during their public displays. Included are descriptions of various ways wood alcohol can be used to make envelopes